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Security Information

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NOV 24 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chiefs, Area Divisions

ATTENTION: Paramilitary Staffs

SUBJECT: Use of Demolition Firing Devices

1. It has been brought to the attention of this office that Demolition Firing Devices Mk 12, Model 0; Mk 13, Model 0 and Mk 15, Model 0, are being used by some of the Area Divisions. The following comments are intended for all personnel who now, or in the future, have occasion to handle these devices.

2. All these models have a tendency to fire prematurely, especially when set to fire after a short time interval. Therefore, delay settings should correspond to the following:

a. Mk 12, Model 0, should not be set for less than 25 seconds.

b. Mk 13, Model 0, should not be set for less than 5 minutes.

c. Mk 15, Model 0, should not be set for less than 2 hours.

The operator should expect all devices to fire prematurely even though the above recommendations have been complied with.

3. As an added precaution, a short length of safety fuse (minimum of 6 inches) should be interposed between the percussion cap and detonator.

4. So long as the above precautions are taken, these devices may be employed until the TFS 24-hour clockwork firing device is available.

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Chief, Paramilitary Operations Staff

cc: Chief, Technical Services Staff  
Director of Training

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